

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16th
MARCH 2015 AT BLYTHE BRIDGE AND FORSBROOK VILLAGE
HALL.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mrs G Burton (Chairman)
Councillor J W Cornwall
Councillor S Farr
Councillor Mrs C Hopley
Councillor Mr F Hopley
Councillor Miss J P Morris
Councillor A J Mould
Councillor Mrs P Shufflebotham
Councillor A E Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Residents (12)
Mrs D Plant Clerk
Naomi Chesters, Community Partnership officer Staffordshire County Council .

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from County Councillor W. Day, Councillor N Stanier, Councillor B Yates, and Councillor P Jones, and Councillor J Burgess

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Item	Member declaring interest	Nature of interest
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School.	Chairman Councillor Mrs. G. Burton.	Personal – Chairman of Governors at the William Amory Primary School.
Foxfield Steam Railway	Councillor A. J. Mould	Personal – volunteer at Foxfield Railway.
Staffordshire County Council – William Amory Primary School. Staffordshire County Council – Rights of Way Issues.	Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham	Personal – Governor at the William Amory Primary School. Personal – Daughter employed by Staffordshire County Council in the Rights of Way Department.

3. OPEN SESSION.

Standing Orders were suspended.

3.1 Naomi Chesters Community Partnership Officer Staffordshire County Council attended the meeting to clarify the situation with Blythe Bridge Library following on from the cabinet meeting on 18th February 2015.

Naomoi explained that following on from research undertaken by SCC the face of libraries had changed and to take into consideration the changing face of how libraries are utilised and the budgetary constraints faced by the authority Blythe Bridge library had been identified as “County managed, Community Delivered” Library.

She went on to explain that from approximately the last week of May / first week of June local community groups would be able to prepare a business case to manage the Library.

This would then be considered by a panel at SCC in September with a view to agreements being signed off in October.

Cllr F Hopley expressed concerns that it was a foregone conclusion that Blythe Bridge High School would be chosen as they already used the library for several classes a week and had taken over the top floor of The Egerton Centre. He explained that Blythe Bridge High School has been using the Egerton Centre for free for a number of years and were now charging voluntary groups to use the rooms. This seemed unfair.

Naomi reassured the Councillors that the process was part of a non-financial procurement process and it was open and transparent.

Councillor Shufflebotham asked if Staffordshire County Council could assure The Parish Council that Blythe Bridge High School were not ahead of the game on the process as she had concerns that Blythe Bridge High Schools latest Ofsted report stated that they needed to have a library.

Councillor Cornwall asked again why Blythe Bridge High School had not been charged for the use of the Egerton Centre, and what would happen if the volunteers failed to turn up to run the library.

Naomi explained that because Blythe Bridge was going to be County Managed Community Delivered there would be extensive support by SCC. She also stated that Warwickshire County Council had successfully been using this model for 3 years.

Councillor Hopley stated that this was just a cost cutting exercise and any attempt to disguise it as something else was wrong.

Councillor Mould asked Naomi how much money SCC were saving by running Blythe Bridge library in this way, unfortunately Naomi could not answer the question.

3.1 Residents Issues.

Travellers

A number of the residents asked for an update on the situation with the proposed traveller's sites.

Chairman Councillor Mrs Gill Burton explained that the Parish Council we had written to Sir William Cash MP and were awaiting a response. She then asked Chris Stevenson to give an update from Blythe Bridge Green Belt Campaign.

A local resident went on to say that she had experience of travellers and it was her opinion that we should all fight the proposals.

Chris Stevenson from the Blythe Bridge Green Belt Campaign explained that the public meeting had gone well with approx. 300 people in attendance, they had recently submitted a freedom of information request to SMDC regarding the issue of compulsory purchase of land and were awaiting a response. At the moment nothing could be done until the consultation opens in June where he asked that everyone submit an individual letter to SMDC

Pavements

It was reported that the pavements on East Bank Ride and Brookgate are in a very bad state of repair, other residents and councillors supported this statement and asked if SCC could be contacted and asked about this and the pavements in the whole of the parish.

It was agreed that SCC be contacted regarding pavements.

Uttoxeter Road, New Houses on the former White Cock Public House site.

Residents reported that the noise from the road is becoming unbearable. The surface of the road is not ideal and causes vibration that they can feel in the house.

The speeds of some of the vehicles was 70 – 80 mph, and when children are trying to cross the road it is an accident waiting to happen. When the A50 is closed the road is used as a rat run.

It was agreed that the clerk contact SCC and Staffordshire Police to report these issues.

Slow Signs Cheadle Road Forsbrook

A local resident talked about the painting of slow signs on the road on the approach to the bend by The Roebuck bend from Cheadle. He had recently witnessed a police vehicle with blue lights travelling at considerable speed around this bend and had to take evasive action to move out of the way.

It was agreed that the clerk would speak to SCC Highways and the office in charge at Cheadle Police Station.

3.2 County Council Report.

In the absence of County Councillor W. Day there was no report.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

4. **INFORMATION AND REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING 'OUTSIDE' MEETINGS.**

Chairman Councillor Mrs Gill Burton had recently attended a meeting of the Local Development Framework Working Group at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, where the Cheadle Transportation Study was discussed. This is being undertaken by Amey Transportation Consultants.

Following this meeting Amey sent out an email to Forsbrook Parish Council regarding future work related to the transport study and asking for comments to inform the next stage of the study, Phase 2 – surrounding villages and wider area.

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton asked the Councillors to consider the following questions and bring their responses to the next meeting on Wednesday 18th March 2015, the Environment Committee Meeting or to inform the clerk.

1. Do you consider areas within your parish are currently affected by Cheadle traffic?
If so, which are the junctions / roads affected? If so when and how often
2. Are there any traffic management solutions you think should be considered? These could be in the Cheadle study area or in your own Parish.
3. Any Other comments

The clerk can then compile the Parish Council responses and forward them onto SCC by 20.3.15

5. **DRAFT MINUTES OF: Council Meeting of February 16th 2015** **RESOLVED:**

- **To amend and sign the minutes.**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.

- 6.1 Chairman Councillor Mrs Gill Burton read an email out from Mr D Larner at SMDC regarding the proposed traveller sites which explained that he was unable to attend the meeting but would be happy to do so when SMDC has decided on which sites should be subject to consultation.

Councillor Hopley stated that the public meeting was a way calming people down and that this was only a proposal at present and nothing had been decided. These decisions all come down to if the landowners will sell. Councillor Pat Shufflebotham stated that it was reassuring that two of the three landowners were present at the public meeting and they were not going to be selling for travellers sites, and were in fact thinking of re-submitting their planning applications for housing.

- 6.1.2 Letter from Sir William Cash MP / Safer Roads Partnership Local Planning and Housing Bill Councillors noted the contents of this.
- 6.1.3 Email regarding a Beat The Cold scheme via SMDC - Councillors noted the content
- 6.1.4 Email from Street Life regarding a new Social Media App – Councillors noted the content

7. CLERK'S REPORT.

- 7.1 Agenda enclosures, correspondence outgoing and emails not detailed as separate agenda items were noted.
- 7.2 The clerk asked the councillors to consider setting up a Forsbrook Parish Council Facebook page.
It was agreed to set up a Forsbrook Parish Council Facebook Page. The clerk will action this.

8. CORRESPONDENCE.

- 8.1 Email Street Life – Local social media network launched
- 8.2 SPCA Updates
- 8.3 Fly Tipping Working Group update
- 8.4 Staffordshire Moorlands Parish Assembly
- 8.5 Email from SCC and SMDC regarding school places
- 8.6 Office of Police and Crime Commissioner flyer for the People Power Fund
- 8.7 SMDC Planning list.
- 8.8 Connect Roads – update on the maintenance of Meir Tunnel for past 12 months
- 8.9 Email regarding an Oil Buying club
- 8.10 Email from the Pensions Regulator about the forthcoming changes to regulation
- 8.11 Email from Will Chapman – Alrewas Parish Council regarding Neighbourhood Planning

Note: All correspondence/documents were available to view on the evening of the Council Meeting or by prior arrangement with the clerk.

9. PLANNING.

9.1 Planning Applications:

SMDC/2015/0072 The Limes, Cheadle Road Blythe Bridge– Proposed attached double garage

Resolved to

To raise no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping.

SMDC/2015/0109 64 Portland Drive, Forsbrook – Two Storey side extension

Resolved To:

To raise no concerns providing the scale and design are in keeping, and the privacy of neighbouring properties is not compromised.

9.2 Planning Approvals:

SMDC2015/0008 56 Cheadle Road Forsbrook - Conversion of residential dwelling

SMDC 2014/0832 Daisybank ,Boundary – Variation of condition 4 to change the roof covering.

CEMETERY.

10.1 Cemetery Report.

Councillor Mrs. P. Shufflebotham, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee there had been 1 funeral since the last meeting.

10.2 It was agreed that a cemetery committee meeting would take place to discuss the 2015 / 2016 financial year fees setting on Wednesday 18th March at 6.15pm at the changing rooms

11. ENVIRONMENT.

11.1 Environment Report.

Chairman Councillor Mrs G Burton (chairman of the environment committee) reported that the Bus Shelter adjacent to Travis Perkins on Uttoxeter Road which had been badly damaged had still not been repaired It was agreed to request an update from Staffordshire County Council.

11.2 Environment Issues.

It was agreed to hold an Environment meeting on Wednesday 18th March at 6.30pm at the changing rooms to discuss the 2015/2016 fees.

It was asked that the clerk contact the football teams to request that they attend to discuss the cleanliness of the changing rooms.

Issue	Action
Light outside the Doctors surgery adjacent to the village hall is missing.	Clerk will contact Dr surgery
Councillor Wilson wanted to mention that a resident on Draycott road had put stones on the grass verge to stop people parking and damaging them.	Noted
<p>Grid in front of the level crossing is breaking up and causing damage to the tarmac Uttoxeter Road and the same at the Stallington Road crossing</p> <p>Councillor Hopley wanted to report that he had recent cause to contact 101 for a police situation and the waiting time on the phone was unacceptable.</p> <p>Councillor Morrison reported that the Tesco deliveries were not taking place in the permitted times as per the planning permission. The large Eddie Stobart lorries were causing chaos when they delivered at 5pm</p> <p>Councillor Mould reported that Foxfield Railway had cut their hedges</p>	<p>To contact SCC highways as this had previously been reported to request an update</p> <p>Clerk to contact the Police to convey the concerns</p> <p>Clerk to contact SMDC regarding the planning issue, Tesco and Eddie Stobart regarding the delivery times.</p> <p>Clerk to write and thank them for their prompt action</p>

Councillor T Mould advised he would investigate the overgrowing hedges on the road adjacent to Foxfield.
11.4 Flag pole

Councillor P Shufflebotham explained that the flag pole had been vandilised in November 2014 and new one is required. Councillor considered various sizes and costs. It was agreed that the clerk investigate the options and report back.

12. FINANCE.

12.1 Bank balance.

It was noted that the bank balance as at 31 December 2014 was:

Co-operative Bank plc	19939.30
Unity Trust Bank	100155.43
Total	

12.2 February 2015 accounts.

The following cheques were presented for payment.

	Supplier	Net	VAT	Gross
402437	HMRC PAYE			735.89
402432	New Computer	340	68	408
402432	Toilet Rolls			11.99
402432	Flowers			33.98
402428	SMDC street cleansing	192	38.40	230.40
402430	SMDC street cleansing	307.20	61.44	368.64
402429	Total Pest Control			135.00
402433	Quality Office Supplies	15.72	3.14	18.86
402434	Town and Country	315	63	378
402436	ClerK salary and allowance			378

RESOLVED:

- **To approve payment of February 2015 accounts.**

Councillor Mr J Cornwall was added as a cheque signatory

Clerk to the Council

Chairman